

Message Text

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70

ACTION EA-10

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5191

UNCLAS HONG KONG 5943

FOR AMBASSADOR VANCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, HK

SUBJECT: DRUG ABUSE ASSISTANCE REQUEST FROM THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT

1. U.S. ASSISTANCE IS BEING SOUGHT BY HONG KONG NARCOTICS COMMISSIONER, PETER LEE, FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A RECOMMENDATION MADE BY AMERICAN CONSULTANT, DR. ROBERT NEWMAN. THE RECOMMENDATION WAS APPENDED TO A REPORT DR. NEWMAN PREPARED AFTER TWO-MONTH (FEBRUARY-MARCH) HONG KONG VISIT AT THE INVITATION OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WHICH SOUGHT HELP IN UPDATING AND COORDINATING ITS DRUG TREATMENT ACTIVITIES. DR. NEWMAN'S REPORT IS BEING CAREFULLY REVIEWED BY RELEVANT HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WHICH HAVE AGREED TO THIS INITIAL REQUEST FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE.

2. THE REQUEST IS FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN THE REVISION OF HONG KONG'S CENTRAL ADDICT REGISTRY. THE REVISION IS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE GREATER UTILITY IN ASSESSING ADDICTION TRENDS AND IN HELPING TO GUAGE THE IMPACT OF LOCAL TREATMENT AND PREVENTION EFFORTS. TO THIS END, DR. NEWMAN SUGGESTED THAT THE HKG MIGHT WISH TO OBTAIN THE SERVICES OF MR. BERT WORBELL, PROJECT MANAGER, NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DATA PROCESSING DEPARTMENT. HKG WOULD LIKE THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN EXPLORING WITH MR. WORBELL HIS INTEREST IN SERVING AS A TEMPORARY CONSULTANT TO THE HKG'S DATA PROCESSING DEPARTMENT.

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3. MR. LEE INDICATED THE HKG HOPE FOR SOME U.S. ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH THE HKG WOULD BE WILLING TO BEAR AN IMPORTANT SHARE OF THE COSTS INCLUDING POSSIBLY TRAVEL EXPENSES AND THE FURNISHING OF AN OFFICE AND SECRETARY IN HONG KONG. IF MR. WORBELL IS INTERESTED, HE MAY WISH TO DISCUSS WITH DR. NEWMAN THE NATURE AND DURATION OF THE CONSULTANCY BEFORE FORMULATING A PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE DEPARTMENT.

4. MR. LEE SUGGESTS THAT MR. WORBELL COME TO HONG KONG IN SEPTEMBER.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

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